SHEAIFF'S DEPARTMENT -

DATE: October 15, 2002

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM:

RICHARD L. CASTRO, COMMANDER

TRAINING DIVISION

TO: ROBERT L. BINKLEY, CAPTAIN

INDUSTRY STATION

FILE:

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

HIT SHOOTING, OCTOBER 6, 2001, IAB REVIEW #2047138

The purpose of this memo is to notify you of the review committee's findings and recommendations concerning the use of force incident which occurred on October 6, 2001.

The Committee met on October 12, 2002, and consisted of myself, Commander David Betkey (Commander of the Department) and Commander William McSweeney (Office of the UnderSheriff). The Committee determined that the use of force by Deputies Sean Heieck # was within Department policy. Please advise the deputies of this finding.

The Committee further directed the Unit Commander conduct a debriefing with the involved personnel with an emphasis on "soft clothes" uniform and identification procedures.

RLC:KRK:kk

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OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING FORM

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EXHIBITS A THROUGH L

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- B Three (3) video tapes of interviews conducted by Homicide investigators
- C Photographs of "Miss Kitty's" driveway
- **D** Photographs of "Miss Kitty's entrance and parking lot
- E Photographs of the emergency exit of "Miss Kitty's"
- F Photographs of the westbound view of Valley Boulevard
- G Photographs of the 76 Gas Station
- H Photographs of the Chevron Station and damage to signs
- I Photographs of the position undercover van
- J Photographs of the position of the suspect
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Los A reles County Sheriff's Depretment Officer Involved Shooting

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Report Date:)-06-01	Bureau/Station/Facility:	INDUSTR	Y STA	TION	Admin. In	nvest.?	Hit?
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PSTD Use Only
SH# SH2047138

Officer Involved Shooting

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	*****		X & Y	# # # A	Rollout Informati	on							
Arrival	Date 10-06-0		rival Time O	300 HRS	Date Submitted	04-03	3-02	Date of Red	commendati	on			
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FORCE APPLIED (one code per block)

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
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E#2	S	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	DH	СН
S	E#1	FH	ZZ	9			NN	, , .
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.223 caliber

(40)

.40 caliber

(SL) Slug (WW) Other caliber

Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

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	and the second	and the second		Involved Employee	and the second second		
E_1	Employee #	HEIECK			First Name SEAN t Assignment: Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):		
	Sex: Race: W	M W DEPUTY			Work Assignment (Unit #	#, Module, etc.): 143E	
	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day	PM Day Regular Overtime Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage?	Substance Used:		
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	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting 8-9 Age: Height:	8-9 Plain Cle			Other Factors:		
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	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name			First Name	M.I.	
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name		COUNTY Select agreement on the discovery flavor in the contraction of	First Name	M.I.	
E_2	Employee #	Last Name MORALES	3		First Name RAYE	M.I. D.	
	Sex: Race: H	Rank	Y	Unit Assignment: INDUSTRY STATION	Work Assignment (Unit #	f, Module, etc.): 143E	
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	Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name				M.I.		
E	Employee #	Last Name	Marie - Allerton		First Name	M.I.	
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[Certified with Weapon Used? Patrol Certification?			Certification Unit:	Number of Prior Shootings:		
ļ	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name			First Name	M.I.	
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name		7-7-1	First Name	M,I.	

Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

URN: ____001-15399-1462-055

Page Suspect Information First Name ERNEST s 1 Last Name GUILLEN M.I. AKA Last Name First Name M.I. "LISTO" M Race: State & Zip Code City Street Add Н Work Phone: Home Phone: Social Security Driver's Licen Age: 29 Height: 5'7" Weight: 220 FBI# CII# D.O.B. 09-11-72 Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drug Usage? 2001-07247 Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Model: Year: First Name M.I Last Name First Name M.I. AKA Last Name Street Address: State & Zip Code: City Sex: Race Home Phone: Social Security #: Work Phone: Driver's License #: D.O.B. Weight: FBI# CII# Height: Age: Primary Charge: Booking # Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Armed? Apprehended? Vehicle Make First Name M.I. Last Name s AKA Last Name First Name M.I. State & Zip Code: Race: Street Address: City Sex: Home Phone: Social Security #: Driver's License #: Work Phone: D.O.B. Weight: FBI# Age: Height: Primary Charge: Booking # Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Armed? Model: Year Vehicle Make First Name M.I. Last Name First Name M.I. AKA Last Name State & Zip Code: Street Address: City Race: Sex: Social Security #: Home Phone: Driver's License #: Work Phone: CII# D.O.B. FBI# Age: Height: Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Substance Used: Coroner Case # Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Armed? Model: Year: Vehicle Make

SUPPLEMEN AL NON-EMPLOYE WITNESSES Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

5 **of** 5 Page Non-Employee Witnesses Last Name First Name M.I Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Home Ph Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Home Ph Street Address Zip Code Work Ph M.I. Last Name First Name Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Home Ph Street Address Zip Code Work Ph M.I. Last Name First Name Home Ph Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Home Ph Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Last Name M.I. First Name Street Address Zip Code Home Ph Work Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address Zip Code Home Ph Work Ph Last Name M.I. First Name Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.J. Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Last Name First Name M.I. Zip Code Work Ph Home Ph Street Address



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney
CURT LIVESAY• Chief Deputy District Attorney
PETER BOZANICH • Assistant District Attorney

DAVID H. GUTHMAN • Director

June 14, 2002

Captain Frank Merriman
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
5747 Rickenbacker Road
Commerce, California 90040

Dear Captain Merriman:

Re:

J.S.I.D. File # 01-0968

L.A.S.D. File # 001-15399-1462-055

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the October 6, 2001, fatal shooting of Ernest Guillen by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies Sean Heieck and Raye David Morales. We have concluded that Deputies Heieck and Morales acted lawfully in self-defense and the defense of others.

The following analysis is based on Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau reports of the incident totaling 188 pages, an examination of the shooting scene and autopsy photographs related to the shooting, the statements of witnesses at the scene, and

our own Bureau of Investigation reports. Deputies Heieck and Morales both gave voluntary statements.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of this incident on October 6, 2001 at 1:30 a.m. Assistant Head Deputy John Gilligan and District Attorney Senior Investigator responded immediately to the scene at 13107 Valley Boulevard, in the City of Industry. We were given a briefing and a "walk-through" of the scene by Los Angeles Sheriff's Detective Chris Brackpool.

FACTUAL ANALYSIS

On Saturday, October 6, 2001, Deputies Morales and Heieck were part of a team of nineteen deputies, two sergeants and a lieutenant who were working a gang suppression detail in the City of Industry. At approximately 1:00 a.m., Morales and Heieck were in



Captain Frank Merrim²
June 14, 2002

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the west parking lot of Miss Kitty's bar on Valley Boulevard in the City of Industry. They were in an unmarked observation van and were wearing plain clothes.

The two deputies observed members of the Mongols motorcycle gang loitering outside the club. They made radio contact with other members of their team who then began moving towards the group of Mongols. One of the individuals ran into the bar when deputies approached him. Two other deputies followed the suspect into the bar.

Shortly after the deputies entered the building, Heieck and Morales observed a fire door on the side of the building open. A young Hispanic male, later identified as Ernest Guillen, came out the door and ran first south and then north on Valley Boulevard.

The two deputies believed that he was running because he was involved in criminal activity. They followed him in their van, identified themselves as deputies and ordered him to stop. Guillen ignored the orders of the deputies.

As Guillen ran in front of Millers Liquor at 13107 Valley Boulevard, he turned and pointed what appeared to be a semi-automatic pistol directly at the deputies. At that point the van stopped and both deputies fired their 9-millimeter Beretta pistols at him. Guillen was struck with several rounds and fell to the ground fatally wounded.

Paramedics arrived a few minutes later and pronounced Guillen dead at the scene. A Walther .380 semi-automatic pistol was found next to his body. Guillen was identified by witnesses inside Miss Kitty's. Guillen was a Lomas gang member with two prior prison commitments for robbery and an outstanding arrest warrant for murder in case number GA040566.

Methamphetamine and a stolen Ruger 9-millimeter pistol were found in Guillen's vehicle.

An autopsy was performed on October 7, 2001 by Deputy Medical Examiner Raffia Djabourian. The cause of death was determined to be multiple gunshot wounds. Guillen was struck by eleven rounds, four of which caused rapidly fatal wounds. There was no soot or stippling at any of the entry wounds. The 9-millimeter Berettas carried by Heieck and Morales were collected. Based on the rounds remaining in each weapon and the casings and projectiles recovered at the scene, it appears that Deputy Heieck fired ten rounds and Deputy Morales fired two rounds.

Civilian witness was interviewed. She is a said at Miss Kittys.

said that at the time the deputies were coming into Miss Kitty's, Guillen, who she knew as "Listo", approached her and said, "I gotta leave, I gotta get out of here!" said she helped him by taking him to an emergency exit on the west side of the building. She said she opened the door and Guillen ran out. She confirmed that "Listo" was an admitted Lomas gang member



Captain Frank Merriman June 14, 2002 Page 3

CONCLUSION

California law permits the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others if the person claiming the right to use self-defense actually and reasonably believed (1) that he or she or the person that he or she was defending, was in imminent danger of death or great bodily injury; and (2) that it was necessary under the circumstances to use deadly force to avoid such death or great bodily injury.

Based on what they observed, Deputies Heiek and Morales were correct in attempting to detain Guillen as he fled from the deputies who were entering Miss Kitty's. What they did not know was that they were attempting to detain a potential third strike candidate who had an outstanding murder warrant, a gun on his person, and another gun and illegal drugs in his car.

Both deputies' actions were clearly justifiable under the law. When Heieck and Morales fired, it was in response to Guillen pointing a semi-automatic pistol at them. The deputies had already identified themselves as police officers and ordered Guillen to stop. The deputies had no alternatives to the use of deadly force at that time.

From the information presented to this office by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and our own investigation, the evidence establishes that Deputies Heieck and Morales acted reasonably and lawfully. Based on this conclusion, we are closing our file and will take no further action in this matter.

#

Very truly Yours,

STEVE COOLEY District Attorney

Rv

JOHN FRANCIS GILLIGAN Assistant Head Deputy

(213) 974-7435

c: Deputy Sean Heieck # Deputy Raye David Morales #